

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01360 170936Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----170944Z 075513 /23-12

O R 170845Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7332
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 1360

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, PK, KE, IR, SA, MU, MP
SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST FORCE - THE NEW FORMAT: DHAHRAN COMMENTS

REFS: (A) STATE 30235 (B) MANAMA 0244 (C) JIDDA 1328

1. CONSULATE GENERAL DHAHRAN REPORTS THAT USS DUPONT HAS JUST COMPLETED

A WELL-RECEIVED VISIT TO DAMMAM FEB 13-15, IN PREPARATION FOR VISIT
PORT DIRECTOR VOLUNTEERED THAT EVEN LONGER VISIT WOULD NOT CAUSE
DIFFICULTY WITH REGARD TO PIER SPACE, SINCE -- APART FROM CEMENT
CARRYING SHIPS -- PORT NOW PROVIDES IMMEDIATE BERTHING FOR ALL.

2. CONSULATE GENERAL NOTED VERY RECEPTIVE ATTITUDE OF NUMEROUS
EASTERN PROVINCE OFFICIALS (EP) CONCERNING THE DUPONT. THE
VISITORS INCLUDED EP GOVERNOR, PRINCE ABDUL MUHSIN BIN JILUWI,
EP AREA MILITARY COMMANDER, MAJOR GENERAL AL-BOORY; ACTING
ROYAL SAUDI NAVAL (RSNF) COMMANDER BADR AL SALEH, AND ALL OF
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SENIOR OFFICERS OF DAMMAM PORT. THE VISITORS SEEMED
IMPRESSED BY REPORTS FROM THE DUPONT'S COMMANDING OFFICER OF
PERFORMANCE OF 14 RSNF ENLISTED MEN AND OFFICERS WHO RECENTLY
COMPLETED A SIX WEEK OJY CRUISE IN THE USN DESTROYER.
THE ACTING COMMANDER OF THE RSNF WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED
IN THE POSSIBILITY OF PERSONEL FROM THE SHIP OR FROM BAHRAIN
AUGMENTING USMTM NAVY SECTION PERSONNEL AND PROVIDING SPECIALIZED

INSTRUCTION AT RSNF INTERIM REPAIR FACILITY AND INTERIM TRAIN-
ING CENTER TO BE OPENED SOON IN DAMMAM. THE DUPONT COMMANDER
RESPONDED POSITIVELY, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING THE REPAIR
FACILITY. NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT ONE USN OFFICER RECEIVED
COMMENT FROM ONE RSNF OFFICER THAT MUCH OF THE ELECTRONIC AND
RELATED GEAR ON DUPONT WAS 20-YEARS OLD AND, CONSEQUENTLY,
OUT OF DATE. SAUDI COMMENT SUGGESTS THAT IF MEANINGFUL
TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO BE PART OF USN SHIP VISITS IN
GULF, MORE MODERN SHIPS NEED TO BE INCLUDED IN MIDEASTFOR IF
VISITS ARE TO BE VALUED AND, THEREFORE, WELL RECEIVED BY
THEIR NAVAL HOSTS ON CONTINUING BASIS.
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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